INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

UNCLASSIFIED F730004-1049

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Control: 5517
Rec'd: July 14, 1954
12:10 a.m.

FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 77, July 13, 5 p.m.

My informal conversation last night with Junta President Carlos Castillo Armas (EMBTEL 73, July 12) provided further indications of difficulties faced by Junta in reconstructing government with reliable anti-Communists and at same time attempting to assure order, root out Communists and produce constructive program. These circumstances have inevitably led to confusion and delay and must be kept in mind in planning our moves here.

Meeting took place in tastefully furnished private home in downtown area now being used by Castillo as a residence. Also present was Luis Coronado Lira, private secretary of Junta, who took notes to insure decisions reached would be carried out.

First topic of conversation was Communist problem. I pointed out nine of eleven members of political committee of Communist Party were still unaccounted for and would doubtless cause trouble if allowed set up underground organization. In this connection, I mentioned report (unconfirmed) that clandestine pro-Communist station was already broadcasting. Colonel Castillo replied that police were making every effort apprehend Communist leaders and that he would today announce appointment Colonel Miguel Mendova as police chief, thus insuring vigorous action.

I also mentioned desirability of public trials of persons guilty of criminal acts (DEPTEL 42 July 9) and Colonel Castillo said delay was due to necessity of collecting evidence and reorganizing entire judiciary to eliminate pro-Arbenz judges, but that they would go ahead as rapidly as possible.

He further said that records of all persons currently in asylum in foreign diplomatic missions would be carefully checked before safe conducts were issued to determine whether grounds for prosecution existed; wherever basis for criminal proceedings was found, extradition of person from foreign mission would be requested. He stated emphatically, "this is for USA matter of basic principle."

PEURIFOY

JUL 19 1954

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PER Chamun OFFICE ARA
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PRIORITY

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

F790004-1050

FROM : AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

DATE July 13, 1954

REF :

DEPT. OF STATE
ARA
DEPT. JUL 23 1954
OFFICE OF MIDDLE AMERICAN AFFAIRS
OTHER MEXICAN AFFAIRS

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REC'D. M-15	Gtm-4	1 15 2 AA-6 P-1 S-1 IES-4 Cia-7 Lab-3 FOA-70

SUBJECT: Anti-Communist Guatemalan Labor Leader Returns.

Rubén D. VILLATORO, chief of the Free Workers Union (Unión de Trabajadores Libres), returned to Guatemala on July 5, 1954 after five months of exile in Mexico. Villatoro's influence in Guatemalan labor circles was never great because of the favoritism shown the Communist-dominated unions by the Arbenz Government. However, with his record of persecution for anti-Communist activities, Villatoro has emerged as the most prominent labor leader in the country and should be in a position to be at least heard by the new Government regarding its social policies.

Villatoro has exhibited to officers of this Embassy a letter dated May 14, 1954 which he received from Colonel CASTILLO Armas, leader of the insurgents, in which Castillo sent him money and a plane ticket to Honduras. Villatoro said he was unable to get travel documents to join Castillo, but certain of his union associates had taken an active part in the rebellion. Villatoro reported he was to meet with Castillo Armas tonight (July 9) to discuss labor problems. He promised to inform the Embassy of the results of this meeting.

Villatoro stated his most urgent task is to set up offices again and gather his scattered forces (some are still in Chiquimula with the Army of Liberation). He has issued a statement to the press that his organization is once again in business.

Villatoro said he is firmly opposed to subsidies from the Guatemalan Government to local labor organizations, but that he is hoping to receive financial aid from U.S. confederations. He said he has reason to believe he will be given $5,000 per month by these bodies.

Some of the opinions expressed by Villatoro may be of interest to the Department. He feels the big question with United Fruit is the sovereignty of Guatemala: Special exemptions from laws and taxes must be eliminated by negotiation, perhaps on a gradual basis. He says foreign investment must be encouraged, but that foreign companies must compete without privilege

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REPORTER

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PER EMBASSY OFFICE FOA FOI CASE NO. 74-332

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against Guatemalan companies. He agrees that the Arbenz administration was not interested in negotiating with foreign companies, but instead tried to destroy them and foment unrest. He claims that Guatemala must have control of its own sea ports.

Villatoro's views on the productivity of labor are interesting. He compares a U.S. bricklayer who earns $20 a day with a Guatemalan who earns $1. He says many Guatemalans do not understand that the American laborer earns his pay. He points out the Guatemalan, if paid by the day, produces practically nothing, while, if paid by the unit, he will turn out a fair quantity of slovenly work.

Villatoro exhibited considerable enthusiasm for sending Guatemalan labor leaders to the United States on leadership grants if such grants should become available.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

Andrew B. Wardlaw
First Secretary of Embassy

~~Enclosure~~

~~No enclosure is needed for this dispatch~~

F790004-1052

COMUNICADO QUE ENVIA LA UNION DE OBREROS LIBRES

Los Trabajadores libres de los cuales era presidente el señor Rubén Villatoro, expulsado a México por los líderes comunistas, los envía el siguiente comunicado:

"Unión nacional de trabajadores libres de Guatemala, informa a todos sus afiliados de la república, que muy pronto ins-

Pasa a la 8ª página

Comunicado...

Viene de la página 1

talará sus oficinas nuevamente, para proceder a su reorganización y ponerse al servicio de nuestra patria.

Unión nacional de trabajadores libres, contribuyó en todo lo posible, con las fuerzas de Liberación nacional, hasta lograr la eliminación de los comunistas que venían pisoteando la dignidad nacional. En igual forma y con más decisión, prestaremos nuestra colaboración en la tarea de reconstrucción nacional, defendiendo con tesón la democracia efectiva y el respeto a la persona y a sus bienes. Defenderemos el ejercicio democrático en todos sus órdenes de la vida institucional, solicitando desde hoy, la colaboración de todos los sectores guatemaltecos, para que en un plano patriótico y de armonía nacional, pongan sus esfuerzos al servicio del país.

Unión nacional de trabajadores libres de Guatemala, cuenta con aliados y amigos poderosos que forman las grandes organizaciones de trabajadores democráticos y que ondean en sus banderas de la Confederación Internacional de organizaciones sindicales libres; la American Federacion Of Labor; la Organización regional interamericana de trabajadores, O.R.I.T. Estas organizaciones constituyen un baluarte positivo y constructivo, de la democracia occidental y un alto que a la amenaza del comunismo internacional.

Unión nacional de trabajadores libres de Guatemala, envía un cordial saludo de liberación al pueblo de Guatemala y sus más expresivas condolencias a los deudos de quienes desaparecieron en defensa de los sagrados intereses de nuestra querida patria. — Guatemala, julio 8 de 1954.—Rubén D. Villatoro, presidente.

FOREIGN TELEGRAM — Department of State

11-30-78 UNCLASSIFIED F790004-1055

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Control: 5421
Rec'd: July 13, 1954
4:42 p.m.

28
Action
ARA

FROM: Guatemala City

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ARMY
AIR
NAVY

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 74, July 13

file jmg

Speaking from balcony of National Palace for first time as President of Junta, Colonel Castillo Armas yesterday told "anti-Communist day" crowd, war against Communism must be continued in new forms and outlined his plans of government with stress on consolidating gains of workers and campesinos. He said "unbridled Communism, as it showed itself during Arbenz Government was completely defeated by arms; but Communism still rules in hearts of some bad sons of our beloved Guatemala... In war which we now begin, arms which gave us victory on field of battle will serve us no more. Arms of this new war are different, carrying names of justice, bread, education, work. economy, finance and respect for human personality," he said justice demanded punishment of innumerable crimes perpetrated by Communists and he was personally determined weight of law would fall on these criminals to the point of executing those directly responsible. He promised trial of those who had stolen public funds and restitution from their private estates.

Turning to labor policy, Castillo said social justice demanded labor code be a law to regulate rights and obligations of employers and workers and not instrument of political oppression. He promised as soon as present emergency was over, activity of labor unions would continue normally on sole condition Marxist elements not be allowed in them. "Worker and campesino," he continued, "must know their conquests are assured."

He proposed promulgate laws tending develop popular housing and to aid statal and private child welfare institutions. With respect to agrarian reform, he said that another measure government proposed in struggle against Communism was to endow campesinos with land indispensable to support them. First steps had been undertaken to amend [illegible] in accord with national reality and it was planned to give title to land as private property and not life lease as tenant of state. He asked for immediate cooperation of employees and farmers, stating that neither firing workers or getting land back could serve as basis for just national reconstruction. He then called for purging Communists from public service and elimination of Communists and Communist-sympathizers from field of education. In economic sphere, he proposed to create atmosphere of confidence in order that Guatemalans invest their capital to benefit of country and to give indispensible guarantees for investment of foreign capital, as long as they obeyed laws and gave Guatemalan workers just treatment they deserved.

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-2- 74, July 13. From Guatemala City.

In various parts of his speech, Castillo also went out of his way to compliment first Monzon Junta and army, referring to Junta's "patriotic and disinterested" action and rendering tribute to army for its "determining participation in events which culminated in eradication of Communism and return of peace and harmony to our country."

PEURIFOY

WRG

AIR POUCH — UNCLASSIFIED (Security Classification)

74

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH 790004-1055

FROM : AMEMBASSY, GUATEMALA — DESP. NO. 22

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. — July 14, 1954

REF :

JUL 16 1954

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	ARA-4	OCI/R-2 CLI-6 P-1 EUR/X-1 L-2
	REC'D 7/17	INFO OTHER CIA-7 2:SIA-10 NAVY-3

SUBJECT: Junta Freezes Property of Communists and Officials of the Arbenz Regime.

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By a decree dated July 5, the Junta of Government headed by Elfego Monzón froze the property and assets of some 100 Communists and other persons associated with the government of ex-President Jacobo Arbenz which was overthrown on June 27. The decree limited the freezing of these properties in each case to the time necessary to determine if the persons named had enriched themselves illegally by using the post that they occupied or political influence.

The most prominent among those named in the decree (Decree No. 2 of July 5) were ex-President Arbenz; ex-President Juan José Arévalo; Colonel Carlos Enrique Díaz, former Chief of the Armed Forces; Alfonso Martínez, former Chief of the National Agrarian Department; Guillermo Toriello, former Foreign Minister, and his brother Jorge; and José Manuel Fortuny, Secretary General of the Guatemalan Communist party (PGT). The list, copy of which is attached, was announced to be the first of a series. It was evidently drawn up in some haste for it omitted the names of four of the 11 members of the Communist PGT's Political Bureau and included the name of Juan de Dios Aguilar, one of the five anti-Communist Deputies. It has been reported in the press that Aguilar's name has since been withdrawn.

It is expected that the investigations which are to result from this decree will throw further light on graft and other irregularities under the Arbenz regime.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy.

LWG

Enclosure - 1

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Dept. From _____ UNCLASSIFIED (Classification) Encl. No. 1 Desp. No. 22 From Guatemala

F790004-1056

List of Persons Whose Property Was Frozen Under Decree No. 2 of July 5, 1954

Juan José Arévalo Bermejo
Jacobo Arbenz Guzmán
Roberto Alvarado Fuentes
Bernardo Alvarado Monzón
Carlos Alvarado Jerez
Carlos Leonidas Acevedo
Rufino Alvarado Mendoza
Carlos Aldana Sandoval
Miguel Antonio Alvarado
Juan de Dios Aguilar
Huberto Alvarado
Natzul Aguirre Cook
Ricardo Asturias Valenzuela
Mariano Arévalo
Javier Arévalo

Carlos Bracamonte Morales
Alfonso Bauer Paiz
Waldemar Barrios Klée
Hugo Barrios Klée
Constantino Bernasconi
Rogelio Cruz Wer
Abel Cuenca Martínez
Leonardo Castillo Flores
Ricardo Cancelo Osorio
Augusto Cazali
Ernesto Capuano
Alberto Capuano
José Alberto Cardoza
Oscar Castaneda Rubio
Salvador Chicas Carrillo

Augusto Charnaud MacDonald
Ricardo Chávez Nachmann
Arcadio Chévez Guillén
Jaime Díaz Rozzotto
Carlos Enrique Díaz
Julio Estrada de la Hoz
Guillermo Echeverria Vielman
José Manuel Fortuny
Francisco Fernández Foncea
Marco Antonio Franco Chacón
Roberto Fanjul
Federico Fuentes Gir
Victor Manuel Gutiérrez
Carlos González Orellana
Alfredo Guerra Borges

Miguel García Granados
Terencio Guillén
Julio Gómez Padilla
Humberto González Juárez
Felipe Antonio Girón
Mardoqueo García Asturias
Otto Raúl González
Dora Franco
Maria Jerez de Fortuny
José Humberto Hernández Cobos
Raúl Leiva
Edmundo Lopez Durán
Alfonso Martínez Estévez
Guillermo Melbourne
Hector Mansilla Pinto

José Luis Morales Melgar
Bundio Maldonado hijo
César Montenegro Paniagua
Miguel Francisco Morazán
Minor Keilhauer
Alfonso Orantes
Paulino Ovalle
Guillermo Ovando Arriola
Carlos Manuel Pellecer
Federico Guillermo Palmieri
Manuel Pinto Usaga
Carlos Paz Tejada
Gregorio Prem Beteta
Jaime Rosenberg
Julio Antonio Reyes Cardona
Carlos H. Ruiz
Romulo Ríos Flores
Alfonso Solórzano
Charles Siemons
César G. Solis
Alejandro Silva Falla
Maximiliano Salguero
Mario Sosa
Donald Shaw Bruni
José Angel Sánchez
Maria de Sellarés
Sánchez Grijalva
Gabino Santizo
Mario Silva Jonama
Rafael Santiesteban

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Encl. No. 1
Desp. No. 22
From Guatemala

F790004-1057

Edelberto Torres, padre
Edelberto Torres, hijo
Jorge Toriello Garrido
Guillermo Toriello Garrido
Antonio Vilanova
Enrique Viteri
Educardo Welman Guzman
Virgilio Zapata Mendía
Emilio Zea González
Carlos O. Zachrisson, padre

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AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED
(Security Classification)

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TYPE IN THIS SPACE
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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

F790004-1058

FROM: AMEMBASSY, GUATEMALA

TO: 1/30/79 740332
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

REF:

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July 14, 1954

JUL 15 1954

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	ARA-4	INFO OCB/R P OLY-6 P-1
	REC'D 7/17	OTHER CIA-7 USIA-10 NAVY-3

SUBJECT: Ex-President Arbenz and Major Alfonso Martínez Accused of Responsibility in 1949 Assassination of Chief of Armed Forces.

The press on July 8 stated that Lic. José María PALACIOS Porta had filed a formal accusation against ex-President Jacobo ARBENZ Guzman and Major Alfonso MARTINEZ with the Seventh Court of the Peace in Guatemala City charging them with responsibility for the assassination of Colonel Francisco Javier ARANA, Chief of the Armed Forces and Arbenz' principal rival for the presidency, at the "La Gloria" bridge near Lake Amatitlan on July 18, 1949. He had asked that warrants be issued for their arrest, but Arbenz and Martínez are now in asylum in the Mexican Embassy.

The formal accusation stated that the assassination took place as follows: Colonel Arana on July 18 went to a villa on Lake Amatitlan to recover some arms used (by the Caribbean Legion) in the attempted invasion of the Dominican Republic. He was returning from this mission in a station wagon accompanied by Major Absalón PERALTA, his aide, Colonel Felipe Antonio GIRON Cordon, Chief of the Presidential Staff, and Francisco PALACIOS, his chauffeur, when he came to the "La Gloria" bridge. Here he found the exit to the bridge blocked by a car driven by Anibal MEJIA Bardales, Mrs. Arbenz' chauffeur (and later Deputy from Escuintla). When Arana's station wagon stopped, there appeared a group headed by Martínez, then a Captain and Deputy, which opened fire with submachine guns, killing Arana and his aide, Major Peralta. The assassins then got back into their cars, returning to "Chalet Pomona," Arbenz' residence in Guatemala City.

The accusation claimed that Arbenz and Martínez were directly responsible for the assassination, which constituted murder under the penal laws. It further charged that Martínez received a "price or remunerative promise" which was fulfilled when Arbenz became President.

As witnesses, the formal accusation cited Francisco Palacios, the chauffeur; Colonel Girón; Colonel Jorge BARRIOS Solares, who led the rebellion of the Guardia de Honor after the assassination; Colonel Saturnino BARRERA, ex-Inspector General of the Army; Dr. Carlos SOSA Barillas, the new Minister of Public Health who at

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the time performed the autopsy on Colonel Arana; Colonel Juan José de LEON who had been given custody of the arms by Arana shortly before the assassination; and a copy of a sworn statement made by Carlos LECINOS with respect to the death of Arana.

In addition to Lic. Palacios' formal accusation, the new Attorney General, Lic. José Maria MOSCOSO is reported in the press to have forwarded the Arana case to the courts for further action. He told reporters that he had established that the case had been opened in the Eighth Court of the First Instance in 1949 but that at the end of July of that year the Headquarters of the Central Zone of the Army had requisitioned the dossier and it had not been returned.

The reopening of the Arana Case has received considerable publicity and the well-known account of the assassination given by Palacios, the chauffeur, to the Diario Latino in El Salvador on August 27, 1949 has been reprinted. In addition, El Espectador has published a new interview with Colonel Girón who confirmed the version given in the accusation, except that he did not identify Mejia Bardales and said only that he "heard the voice" of Martínez.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy.

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(Security Classification)

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, GUATEMALA

26
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

July 14, 1954
DATE

REF : F790004-1060

JUL 16 1954

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	ARA-4	
	REC'D 7/17	INFO OTHER CIA-7 USIA-10 NAVY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Castillo Armas Gives First Policy Speech as President of Junta

This document released to public per Burman ARA 740332
11/30/78

JUL 2 1954
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Central Files 00/R

There are enclosed a translation and clippings giving the Spanish text of the policy speech delivered by Lieutenant Colonel Carlos CASTILLO Armas, President of the Junta of Government of Guatemala, from the balcony of the National Palace on the occasion of "Anti-Communist Day," July 12.

The speech, which is summarized in the Embassy's telegram No. 74 of July 13, was Castillo Armas' first policy statement after he assumed the Presidency of the Junta, and his themes were the need to continue the struggle against Communism in new forms and the preservation and consolidation of the gains made by the workers and peasants.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy.

Enclosures:
1. Translation of Castillo Armas' Speech
2. Spanish text " " "

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
JUL 21 1954

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F790004-1061

(Speech Delivered by President Castillo Armas, July 12, 1954 as reported by Prensa Libre, July 13, 1954)

FELLOW CITIZENS:

The American Continent, the entire world, is overjoyed that the curtain has fallen on the last act of the tragedy of the Arbenz Government. Our language, the most expressive of all, lacks words to describe the frightful crimes plotted and carried out in cold blood by the henchmen of the Communist government which has just fallen. This panorama of death, grief and desolation, has fully justified the campaign of liberation which we undertook a long time ago culminating in the armed struggle which began June 17, 1954. At that time I issued my proclamation to the "heroic people of Guatemala and to my beloved comrades in arms" urging their sacrifice in order to overthrow Communism and the Government which protected it, and thus win their freedom.

The youthful lives offered up on the battlefields of Gualán, Zacapa, Chiquimula and Puerto Barrios by the liberation army; the acts of heroic courage by the members of that army and the silent offering of their own lives put into the balance with other anti-Communists, sacrificed by the executioners of Arbenz-Communism, awakened love of fatherland and freedom in the national army. Its representatives, compelled by the force of anti-Communism, forced Arbenz to relinquish power.

The fires lit in the towns occupied by the national liberation army, the patriotic understanding of the last military triumvirate and the unstinting popular enthusiasm with which we were received in all the towns we occupied, paved the way for the peace talks in San Salvador which put an end to armed conflict, set up a single government and forged a single army.

This patriotic and unselfish understanding on the part of the members of the Junta? Colonel Elfego H. Monzón and Lt. Colonels José Luis Cruz Salazar and Mauricio Dubois; their full appreciation of the immense historic responsibility which is inseparable from the exercise of public power, made way for the formation of the present government junta of which my comrades have done me the honor of electing President.

In accepting the Presidency of the Government Junta, I was moved solely by the obligation to carry out my duty to my country and to realize the aims of the "national liberation movement," the total liquidation of Communism from Guatemalan soil and the welfare and glory of Guatemala.

Armed Communism, in full activity, false and lying, freely using all propaganda media of the state; Communism disguised as

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"democracy," winning disciples in elementary and secondary schools; Communism wooing poets and intellectuals; in short, unbridled Communism as was seen in Guatemala during the Arbenz Government, was completely defeated by arms; but Communism still reigns in the hearts of some evil sons of our beloved Guatemala; there were many who received their orders from Moscow, who had lost all feeling of patriotism. The lackeys of Muscovite imperialism still receive orders from their masters to begin the pitched battle for Communism. The battle has begun. A hard battle which forces us to demand that each citizen be a soldier for anti-Communism; a Guatemalan through and through; for love of country alone will not win us the final victory. It is to direct this battle that I have agreed to lead the noble Guatemalan people.

In the war that is now beginning, the arms which brought us victory on the battlefields will serve us no longer. The arms for this new war are different ones; they bear the names justice, sustenance, education, work, economy, finance and respect for the human individual.

The innumerable crimes carried out by the Communists in their eagerness to maintain themselves in Guatemala cry out for justice. It is my personal intention that the full weight of the law shall fall without consideration on these criminals and that those directly responsible shall be executed in public vindication and as an example to future generations which must know that crimes against freedom are crimes against the fatherland.

The robberies and defalcations from national funds committed by Arbenz officials call out for justice. To rob one's country is double a crime; to the act itself is added the crime of preventing the state from carrying out its function to protect and assist the people. That is why this type of theft must not remain unpunished. It will be seen to that those responsible are tried and that they shall restore to the State from their private estates what they appropriated illegally.

The attempt at confusing the right of political asylum also demands justice. We must not think that the right of asylum can be used to shelter common criminals. Safeconduct must not be a crystal fountain stained by plants covered with blood or with spoils from the national wealth.

The unethical application of the law by the courts cries out for justice. The law must be the champion of the people and not a whip against them, and the courts must guarantee justice and not serve as the instrument of subjection to an oligarchical bureaucracy.

Social justice demands that the labor code be a law regulating the rights and obligations of owners and workers and not an instrument of political oppression. This justice is based on the conquests

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won by the workers in Guatemala; on full recognition by the state, but free of Marxist confusions. The relationship between capital and labor must be established with equity and with concern for mutual necessity; the realization of such a relationship between the two groups is the means of fig. ing against Communism.

As soon as the present state of emergency has ended, the functioning of union organizations shall continue its normal rhythm with the sole condition that the presence of Marxist elements shall not be permitted.

The workers and peasants will have their best friend in me. My unshakable spirit of justice will be the best guarantee for all. I trust that you will know how to test the frankness and sincerity of this promise by cooperating in our work of purifying the Guatemalan labor movement which is called upon to carry out a social function of benefit to the working classes. In carrying out this objective, as we have said, we shall under no circumstances allow elements attempting to introduce Communist influences into labor organizations to hide behind the wall of social conquest, since this would be to revive misery and disorganization among the working classes.

The worker and the peasant must know that their conquests are ensured; but they must not allow foreign influence or interests to pervert them. Freedom to work dignifies, exalts and respects the worker; Communism, on the contrary, enslaves, destroys and obliterates him. In addition to our determination to crush Communism by force in order to eradicate it completely, we shall use other weapons; meet the people's needs for food, shelter and health, the fruits of social justice.

We propose to promulgate laws and other measures to encourage the construction of homes for the people. We are of the opinion that the restrictive laws issued by the past government, instead of easing the housing shortage, aggravated the problem. Harmony between the interests of the owners and those of the tenants must be sought in a spirit of patriotism. Soldiers of the crusade against Communism must never forget that the Guatemalan Communist Party made the housing problem its best weapon for winning disciples and inciting class warfare.

As President of the Government Junta I propose to give every assistance to private and state groups working for better care and feeding of children. These institutions should be motivated only by a national desire for strong, healthy youth, free of poverty.

To give the peasants land to sustain them, thus achieving abundance and lower prices of the agricultural products which feed the nation is also a weapon in the war we have declared against Communism. Toward this end steps have already been taken to modify

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the Agrarian Law in harmony with conditions in the country, and we hope at the same time to include among these reforms the giving of land to the peasant as private property and not under lease which ties him to the state.

It is essential to national recuperation and the establishment of real social justice that the landowners and farmers cooperate immediately. It must be clearly understood that the liberation movement cannot serve as a pretext for committing injustice or taking revenge. Those who do so, far from cooperating in the restoration of the country, sabotage our movement.

For the security of the government and in order to allow it to proceed with the necessary work of reconstruction, there shall be eliminated from public office all Communist elements, and honest, capable and secure elements will be appointed, whose performance will be the country's best guarantee.

The number of hospitals and their equipment is out of all proportion to the growth of the Guatemalan population. The creation of hospital centers by the Institute of Social Security alleviated but did not solve the problem. It is necessary to broaden the services of the Institute and put the Roosevelt Hospital into operation as soon as possible and to equip, reconstruct or build departmental hospitals.

Communism used government education as a means of infiltrating and extending its doctrine. It went from the normal school to secondary schools and from there to the university. Under the disguise of "associations" actual Communist schools were formed. The thing is obvious: Youth is the future of the country; if young people are injected with the virus of Communism, the country will eventually become a Communist state.

In the crusade which we are now undertaking, the task of eliminating false teachers who, forgetting their duty to God and country, twist the minds under their care with Communist doctrines and teachings, occupies an important position. Not a single Communist or Communist sympathizer should be allowed to teach in a state institution. Parents, all those who fight against Communism, those who lost a dear one in the armed struggle, these must be the foremost watchmen. Only thus can we pay tribute to the fallen; we firmly believe that any crusade for effective improvement in Guatemala must rest on the education of the people.

University autonomy is a cornerstone of Guatemalan nationality. In accordance with this belief we are issuing laws which provide for an increase in university funds and we are cancelling the licenses which the Arbenz government, in an abuse of power, issued to pro-Communist professionals.

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The pro-Communist Arbenz government pursued a policy aimed at discouraging Guatemalan capital and preventing the investment of foreign capital. This was a means of reducing employment and creating conditions which paved the way for Communism.

We hope to create an atmosphere of confidence so that Guatemalans will invest their capital to the advantage of the country and we will give foreign capital necessary guarantees for their investments so long as they abide by the laws of the republic and give our workers the just treatment they deserve.

It is with deep sadness that we have noted the increase in vagrancy and alcoholism. We will fight persistently and stubbornly against these evils which bring desolation and ruin to the Guatemalan home and which rob the productive capacity of the nation.

In the field of national economy, we hope to see enormous progress as a result of the guarantees we will give to capital to increase our country's production. These measures will redound to the benefit of all by increasing employment and strengthening the national economy on a firm foundation.

Within the limitations of the situation, we will make a reasonable cut in the staffs of public agencies. The financial policy of the nation must be handled in such a way as to permit us to balance the budget as soon as possible. The looting of the Communist administration left the national coffers empty, with a deficit exceeding 30 million quetzales; despite this, we will direct our efforts toward revising the whole series of unnecessary expenses which are a burden to the people in order to achieve an effective victory over the high cost of living.

Economic confidence and tranquility must return to the country. Our international credit will improve, as a result of our policy of honesty and progress; both national and private banking institutions will enjoy autonomy and will be respected by the state, thus guaranteeing monetary stability which will lead to intense economic activity.

We close this brief sketch of our administration's plans by declaring our desire for inter-American respect and cooperation: We will work for the achievement of closer ties with Central America; we shall respect the internal policies of other states and we shall continue to strengthen Inter-Americanism in the crucial times through which the world is passing. We will maintain diplomatic relations with all countries whose policy conforms to the democratic ideals of the western world.

The constitutional order was violated by Arbenz and his clique when, anxious to ensure their lives and property, they gave the presidency to the Chief of the Armed Forces. The National Army

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did not stand for this crude deception and threw out those who held power unlawfully and without any popular sympathy, and placed at the head of a government junta, worthy military officers who made the San Salvador agreement feasible, resulting in the formation of the present government which will channelize our movement, the legitimate representative of the aspirations of the people. We have thus come to preside over the government junta, no constitutional order having existed previously. We will maintain a just state to support our activities and, serenely, conscientiously and patriotically, we shall return to constitutionality, once our movement is consolidated. Not to consolidate the movement would be to betray the ideals of liberation which inspire every Guatemalan; the survival of that movement is the ultimate factor in our struggle against Communism.

I am confident that our nation's experience, which has so crudely and painfully brought mourning to hundreds as the savage methods with which Guatemala lives and homes were torn apart in the torture cells become known, will be impressed on the Guatemalan conscience and the conscience of the entire world which shall never forget the Communists' bloody program for maintaining themselves in power. We must all realize that that is what may be expected of such hangmen who respect neither honor, religion, life nor country, for they are nothing but jackals with human trappings. Against them we wage battle, a battle in which we will be implacable.

It is our intention to maintain the broadest freedom of ideas; no Guatemalan shall be prevented from fulfilling his civic duties. But we do wish to make known, decisively and definitively, that we shall proceed sternly with force and energy against any Communist outbreak which in any way attempts to sabotage the patriotic task that we have undertaken, and which we shall carry out despite Communist interests.

In order to carry out this difficult task, in order to reach the end of the path that leads to the realization of our ideals, in order to further the objectives of the national liberation movement, we need the strongest solidarity of the Guatemalan family, a bloc to cheer our steps and support our decisions at all times. Every Guatemalan must intensify his civic spirit; purify himself to prevent poisonous elements from weakening our ranks, and act with dignity, maintaining a conscientious, responsible attitude.

I pay tribute with undying gratitude to the national army for its decisive participation in the events which culminated in the uprooting of Communism and the return of peace and harmony to our fatherland, and took for its unswerving support of our government, thus confirming its creed that when the sacred interests of the nation are endangered, no one and nothing must stand in the way of their defense.

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To the brave ones with whom we forged the national liberation army which opened the floodgates releasing the army and the people of Guatemala, my fraternal appreciation. To our heroes dead on the battlefields, to the martyrs assassinated in the police dungeons by Communist henchmen, our deepest veneration and devotion for the blood spilled in patriotism.

To the youth of our university, nerve center and life of the liberation movement; to the valiant woman of Guatemala, to the civic and political associations which helped us, my deepest gratitude and recognition for your brilliant contribution to our land. To the national army and all the people of Guatemala: In expressing to you my devoted admiration and gratitude, I ask you to spare no effort in remaining united as a single body and prepared for any sacrifice to safeguard our cause and the happiness of the Guatemalan people.

(Informal Translation by R. Dossick)